

**File #:**

62-HQ-116395

**Serial Scope:**

852

SSC LETTER 8/20/75  
ITEM # 1

#mDR16  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/18/00 BY

RETA 11

See 852

114-10325

OFFICE OF  
THE ATTORNEY GENERAL



ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/18/00 BY SP-2 ALM/FTG

Mr. Hoover -

Obviously these are particularly  
delicate surveillances and we  
should be very cautious in terms  
the non-FBI people who may from  
time to time necessarily be involved  
in some aspect of installation -

NdeK

Mr. Hoover -

Obviously these are particularly  
delicate surveillances and we  
should be very cautious in terms  
the non-FBI people who may from  
time to time necessarily be involved  
in some aspect of installation.

NdeK (Katzenbach)

REC-4

2184

6 JAN 10 1966

EX-103  
Baird  
myer

This document is prepared in response to your request and is not for dissemination outside your Committee. Its use is limited to official proceedings by your Committee and the content may not be disclosed to unauthorized personnel without the express approval of the FBI.

OFFICE OF  
THE ATTORNEY GENERAL



Mr. Tolson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. DeLoach	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Mohr	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Casper	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Callahan	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Conrad	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Felt	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Gale	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Rosen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Sullivan	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Tavel	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Trotter	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Wick	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tele. Room	<input type="checkbox"/>
Miss Holmes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Miss Gandy	<input type="checkbox"/>

#moe/6  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12-18-00 BY SP2 ALM/STG

Mr. Hoover -

Obviously these are particularly delicate surveillances and we should be very cautious in terms the non-FBI people who may from time to time necessarily be involved in some aspect of installation -

*Wick*

Mr. Hoover -

Obviously these are particularly delicate surveillances and we should be very cautious in terms the non-FBI people who may from time to time necessarily be involved in some aspect of installation.

NdeK (Katzenbach)

REC-4

2184

EX-103

6 JAN 10 1966

*Dissemination  
Bates*

*JMK*

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*JR*



FROM

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

TO

OFFICIAL INDICATED BELOW BY CHECK MARK

MR. TOLSON \_\_\_\_\_ ( )  
 MR. DELOACH \_\_\_\_\_ ( )  
 MR. MOHR \_\_\_\_\_ ( )  
 MR. BISHOP \_\_\_\_\_ ( )  
 MR. CASPER \_\_\_\_\_ ( )  
 MR. CALLAHAN \_\_\_\_\_ ( )  
 MR. CONRAD \_\_\_\_\_ ( )  
 MR. FELT \_\_\_\_\_ ( )  
 MR. GALE \_\_\_\_\_ ( )  
 MR. ROSEN \_\_\_\_\_ ( )  
 MR. SULLIVAN \_\_\_\_\_ ( )  
 MR. TAVEL \_\_\_\_\_ ( )  
 MR. TROTTER \_\_\_\_\_ ( )  
 MISS HOLMES \_\_\_\_\_ ( )  
 MISS GANDY \_\_\_\_\_ ( )

#m DR16  
 ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
 DATE 12-18-00 BY SP-2 ALM/ITG

SEE ME \_\_\_\_\_ ( )  
 NOTE AND RETURN \_\_\_\_\_ ( )  
 PREPARE REPLY \_\_\_\_\_ ( )  
 SEND MEMO TO ATTORNEY GENERAL \_\_\_\_\_ ( )  
 FOR YOUR RECOMMENDATION \_\_\_\_\_ ( )  
 WHAT ARE THE FACTS? \_\_\_\_\_ ( )  
 HOLD \_\_\_\_\_ ( )  
 REMARKS:

Place in  
 Personal  
 Confidential  
 File

7-22-69

4

Martin Luther King Jr.

Nicholas de R. K...

This document is prepared in response to your request and is not for dissemination outside your Committee. Its use is limited to official proceedings by your Committee and the content may not be disclosed to unauthorized personnel without the express approval of the FBI.

~~TOP SECRET~~

# ROUTE IN ENVELOPE

The Attorney General

Director, FBI

JUNE

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.  
SECURITY MATTER - COMMUNIST

1 - Mr. DeLoach 1 - Miss Holmes  
1 - Mr. W. C. Sullivan  
1 - Mr. Bishop

June 10, 1969

1 - Mr. Gale (Attention: Mr. Devine)  
1 - Mr. G. C. Moore  
1 - Mr. C. D. Brennan  
(Attention: Mr. Rozamus) *JHR*  
1 - Mr. Glass

#MDR16  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP-2 ALM/ETG  
CR 12-18-00

The following facts are being furnished for your information concerning the telephone surveillance on the residence of the late Martin Luther King, Jr., authorized by former Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy and installed by this Bureau.

On July 16, 1963, an official of this Bureau saw Mr. Kennedy at the latter's request. On that occasion, Mr. Kennedy said he was considering the possibility of a telephone surveillance of King because of King's communist associations. He was advised by the Bureau official that since King was in travel status practically all the time, the productivity of such a surveillance was doubtful and he was asked to consider the repercussions if it ever became known that such a surveillance had been instituted on King. Mr. Kennedy said he was not concerned about possible repercussions and that he thought it advisable to have as complete coverage as possible in view of the possible communist influence in the racial situation. He was told that the feasibility of such coverage would be determined and an appropriate recommendation would be submitted to him. ✓

On July 25, 1963, Mr. Kennedy changed his mind concerning his request and thought it ill advised at that time, but on October 7, 1963, a request for authority to place a telephone surveillance on King's residence was sent to Mr. Kennedy. On October 10, 1963, he authorized this 100-106670

NATIONAL SECURITY INFORMATION

CEG:ekw *ekw*  
(11)

Unauthorized Disclosure  
Subject to Criminal Sanctions

SEE NOTE PAGE TWO

~~TOP SECRET~~

Group 1

Excluded from automatic  
downgrading and

cc is in PF - Martin Luther King, Jr.

SENT FROM D. O.

TIME 5:32 PM

DATE 6-18-69

BY *ekw*

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐



~~TOP SECRET~~

The Attorney General

surveillance, and a surveillance on any future residence of King, by his written signature.

This telephone surveillance was installed on November 8, 1963, and was discontinued on April 30, 1965.

NOTE:

Because of the considerable publicity concerning the telephone surveillance on the residence of the late Martin Luther King, Jr., occasioned by the court hearings in the Selective Service case of Cassius Clay, the facts concerning the original request for this coverage by Robert F. Kennedy, are being furnished to the Attorney General.

Classified "~~Top Secret~~" because of sensitive nature of the information contained therein, the unauthorized disclosure of which could result in exceptionally grave damage to the national security.

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

# ROUTE IN ENVELOPE

The Attorney General

Director, FBI

JUNE

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.  
SECURITY MATTER - COMMUNIST

1 - Mr. DeLoach 1 - N  
1 - Mr. W. C. Sullivan  
1 - Mr. Bishop

June 10

1 - Mr. Gale (Attention: Mr. F)  
1 - Mr. G. C. Moore  
1 - Mr. C. D. Brennan  
(Attention: Mr. F)  
1 - Mr. Glass

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Bishop	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

DECLASSIFIED BY SP-2 ALM/776  
ON 12-18-00

The following facts are being furnished for your information concerning the telephone surveillance on the residence of the late Martin Luther King, Jr., authorized by former Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy and installed by this Bureau.

On July 16, 1963, an official of this Bureau saw Mr. Kennedy at the latter's request. On that occasion, Mr. Kennedy said he was considering the possibility of a telephone surveillance of King because of King's communist associations. He was advised by the Bureau official that since King was in travel status practically all the time, the productivity of such a surveillance was doubtful and he was asked to consider the repercussions if it ever became known that such a surveillance had been instituted on King. Mr. Kennedy said he was not concerned about possible repercussions and that he thought it advisable to have as complete coverage as possible in view of the possible communist influence in the racial situation. He was told that the feasibility of such coverage would be determined and an appropriate recommendation would be submitted to him.

On July 25, 1963, Mr. Kennedy changed his mind concerning his request and thought it ill advised at that time, but on October 7, 1963, a request for authority to place a telephone surveillance on King's residence was sent to Mr. Kennedy. On October 10, 1963, he authorized this

100-106670 NATIONAL SECURITY INFORMATION

Unauthorized Disclosure  
Subject to Criminal Sanctions

SEE NOTE PAGE TWO

CEG:ekw  
(11)

~~TOP SECRET~~

Group 1

Excluded from automatic  
downgrading and

cc is in PF - Martin Luther King, Jr.

SENT FROM D. O.  
TIME 5:32 PM  
DATE 6-18-69  
BY [Signature]

Tolson	_____
DeLoach	_____
Mohr	_____
Bishop	_____
Casper	_____
Callahan	_____
Conrad	_____
Felt	_____
Gale	_____
Rosen	_____
Sullivan	_____
Tavel	_____
Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Holmes	_____
Gandy	_____



Subject MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., SECURITY MATTER - COMMUNIST  
COMMUNIST INFLUENCE IN RACIAL MATTERS

This serial, the original memorandum from the FBI to the Attorney General dated October 7, 1963, which was returned to the Bureau signed by the Attorney General authorizing FBI to conduct electronic surveillance, has been permanently removed for retention in the National Security Electronic Surveillance File per memorandum T. J. Smith to Mr. E. S. Miller dated 7-13-73. See 62-115687-1 for details and where maintained.

Removed By SA Russell H. Horner Date 12/13/73

Complete File and Serial Number 100-106670-254

#MDR16  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/18/00 BY SP-2 ALM/jtg

SSC LETTER 8/20/75

ITEM # 8

#mje/6  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/18/00 BY SP-2 ALN/ATG

RETAIN!

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

## Memorandum

TO : Mr. Belmont

DATE: June 25, 1963

FROM : C. A. Evans

JUNE

SUBJECT: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
 Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
 Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
 Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
 DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
 Evans \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
 Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sullivan ☒ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
 Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

The Attorney General orally informed me today that he had been considering the request he made on July 16, 1963, for a technical surveillance on Martin Luther King at his home and office and was now of the opinion that this would be ill advised.

At the time the Attorney General initially asked for such a surveillance, he was told there was considerable doubt that the productivity of the surveillance would be worth the risk because King travels most of the time and that there might be serious repercussions should it ever become known the Government had instituted this coverage. These were the very thoughts that the Attorney General expressed today in withdrawing his request.

With reference to the other technical surveillance requested at the same time, namely, the one on Clarence Benjamin Jones, the Attorney General felt this was in a different category and we should go forward with this coverage. It is noted that this was previously approved in writing by the Attorney General.

The memorandum we sent to the Attorney General on July 23, 1963, requesting authority for the King surveillance has been retrieved and is attached.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

We will take no further action to effect technical coverage on Martin Luther King, either at his home or at his office at the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, in the absence of a further request from the Attorney General.

Enclosure

1 - Mr. Sullivan

1 - Mr. Rosen

CAE:vap

(8)

REC-39

AUG 6 1963

This document is prepared in response to your request and is not for dissemination outside your Committee. Its use is limited to official proceedings by your Committee and the content may not be disclosed to unauthorized personnel without the express approval of the FBI.

OFFICE OF  
THE ATTORNEY GENERAL



*Courtney*  
*Spencer*

*W*

#MDR16  
ALL FBI INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12-18-00 BY SP-2 ALM/STG

ENCLOSURE

171





~~SECRET~~

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to

File No. 100-106670

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

July 23, 1963

*#mbr16*  
DECLASSIFIED BY *SP2ALM/LTG*  
ON *12-18-00*

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

RE: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.  
SECURITY MATTER - COMMUNIST

Martin Luther King, Jr., resides at 563 Johnson Avenue, N.E., Atlanta, Georgia, and is the President of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, 330 Auburn Avenue, Atlanta, Georgia. He is closely associated with Stanley Levison, a concealed member of the Communist Party, USA. Levison has described King as being a wholehearted Marxist who has studied Marxism, believes in it, agrees with it, but because of his being a minister of religion does not dare to espouse it publicly. *Sensitive foreign intelligence section*

Pursuant to your request that in view of the possible communist influence in the racial situation consideration be given to placing a technical surveillance on King, it is requested that authority be granted to place a technical surveillance on King at his current residence or at any future address to which he may move. It is further requested that authority be granted to place a technical surveillance on the Southern Christian Leadership Conference of which King is President or at any future address to which it may be moved.

Respectfully,

*J. Edgar Hoover*  
John Edgar Hoover  
Director

*Approved*  
APPROVED

DATE

NATIONAL SECURITY INFORMATION  
Unauthorized Disclosure  
Subject to Criminal Sanctions

~~SECRET~~

GROUP 1  
Excluded from automatic  
downgrading and  
declassification

ENCLOSURE

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

ROUTE IN ENVELOPE

## Memorandum

TO : MR. BELMONT

JUNE

DATE: 7/16/63

FROM : C. A. Evans

cc Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Sullivan  
Mr. EvansSUBJECT: COMMUNIST INFLUENCE IN  
RACIAL MATTERS

Tolson ☒  
 Belmont ☒  
 Mohr ☒  
 Casper ☒  
 Callahan ☒  
 Conrad ☒  
 DeLoach ☒  
 Evans ☒  
 Gale ☒  
 Rosen ☒  
 Sullivan ☒  
 Tavel ☒  
 Trotter ☒  
 Tele. Room ☒  
 Holmes ☒  
 Gandy ☒

The AG was contacted at his request late this afternoon. He said that Clarence Benjamin Jones, a NY attorney who has had close association with Martin Luther King, and with Stanley Levinson (a concealed communist), had been in to see Burke Marshall about the racial situation. According to the AG, Jones had indicated he had some reservations about talking with Levinson on the phone. Marshall thought he might have been referring to a possible telephone tap, and passed it off by telling Jones this was something he would have to take up with Levinson.

The purpose of the AG's contact was that this brought to his attention the possibility of effecting technical coverage on both Jones and Martin Luther King. I told the AG that I was not at all acquainted with Jones, but that, in so far as King was concerned, it was obvious from the reports that he was in a travel status practically all the time, and it was, therefore, doubtful that a technical surveillance on his office or home would be very productive. I also raised the question as to the repercussions if it should ever become known that such a surveillance had been put on King.

The AG said this did not concern him at all; that in view of the possible communist influence in the racial situation, he thought it advisable to have as complete coverage as possible. I told him, under the circumstances, that we would check into the matter to see if coverage was feasible and, if so, would submit an appropriate recommendation to him.

If you approve, we will have a preliminary survey made to see if technical coverage is feasible with full security.

This document is prepared in response to your request and is not for dissemination outside your Committee. Its use is limited to official proceedings by your Committee and the content may not be disclosed to unauthorized personnel without the express approval of the FBI.

CAE:CSH (4)



# ROUTE ENVELOPE

7/17/63

CODE

TELETYPE  
REC-9

URGENT

TO SACS ATLANTA  
NEW YORK

FROM DIRECTOR FBI

1 - Mr. Belmont  
1 - Mr. Evans  
1 - Mr. Sullivan  
1 - Mr. McGowan  
1 - Mr. Bland  
1 - Mr. Donohue  
1 - Mr. Shaw

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12-18-00 BY SP2 ALM/tjt

JUNE. COMMUNIST INFLUENCE IN RACIAL MATTERS.

IN VIEW OF THE POSSIBLE COMMUNIST INFLUENCE IN THE RACIAL  
SITUATION, ATTORNEY GENERAL HAS REQUESTED THAT TECHNICAL  
SURVEILLANCES IMMEDIATELY BE PLACED ON MARTIN LUTHER KING, LEADER  
OF THE SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE, AND CLARENCE  
BELLAMY JONES, A NEW YORK CITY ATTORNEY WHO IS CLOSELY ASSOCIATED  
WITH KING AS WELL AS WITH STANLEY LEVISON, A CONCEALED COMMUNIST.  
THE PURPOSE OF THE COVERAGE IS TO UNCOVER EVIDENCE OF COMMUNIST  
PARTICIPATION AND DIRECTION IN RACIAL MATTERS. PROVIDED FULL  
SECURITY IS ASSURED, NEW YORK AND ATLANTA SHOULD IMMEDIATELY MAKE  
MOST DISCREET SURVEYS TO DETERMINE IF TECHNICAL SURVEILLANCES ON  
KING AND JONES ARE FEASIBLE AND CAN BE CONDUCTED WITH FULL SECURITY.  
EXPEDITE HANDLING AND SUTEL RESULTS, TOGETHER WITH YOUR RECOMMENDATIONS

WGS:KMJ  
(9)

NOTE: See memorandum Mr. Evans to Mr. Belmont 7/16/63 same caption.  
See memorandum Baumgardner to Sullivan 7/17/63 same caption;  
WGS:kmj.

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Evans \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

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VIA TELETYPE

JUL 17 1963

ENCIPHERED

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

UNITED STATES GO

## Memorandum

ROUTE IN *ELI V* ELOPETO : Mr. W. C. Sullivan *WCS*DATE: July 17, 1963 *L*FROM : Mr. F. J. Baumgardner *C. P.*SUBJECT: COMMUNIST INFLUENCE IN  
RACIAL MATTERS

Tolson	_____
Belmont	_____
Mohr	_____
Casper	_____
Callahan	_____
Conrad	_____
DeLoach	_____
Evans	_____
Gale	_____
Rosen	_____
Sullivan	_____
Tavel	_____
Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Holmes	_____
Gandy	_____

Memorandum Evans to Belmont 7/16/63 discloses that in view of the possible communist influence in the racial situation, the Attorney General has requested that technical surveillances be placed immediately on Martin Luther King, leader of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, and Clarence Benjamin Jones, a New York City attorney, who is closely associated with King. Memorandum points out that if the Director approves, steps will be taken toward having a preliminary survey made to see if technical surveillances are feasible and can be conducted with full security. The Director noted "Yes" and also inquired "What do our files show on Jones?"

ACTION:

(1) There is attached a teletype to Atlanta and New York instructing that discreet surveys to determine if technical surveillances on King and Jones are feasible and can be conducted with full security.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/18/00 BY SP-2 HLM/STB

(2) A separate memorandum is being prepared covering the Director's question relative to what our files show concerning Jones.

Enc. sent 7-17-63

- 1 - Mr. Belmont
- 1 - Mr. Evans
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. McGowan
- 1 - Mr. Bland
- 1 - Mr. Donohue
- 1 - Mr. Shaw

WGS:kmj  
(8)

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6 JUL 31 1963



# ROUTE IN ENVELOPE

## DECODED COPY

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
 Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
 Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
 Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
 DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
 Evans \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
 Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
 Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

☐ AIRGRAM ☐ CABLEGRAM ☐ RADIO ☒ TELETYPE

URGENT  
 TO DIRECTOR ---1---  
 FROM SAC NEW YORK

7-19-63

12:22 AM

DE/SAV

190100

JUNE.

COMMUNIST INFLUENCE IN RACIAL MATTERS.

REFERENCE BUREAU TELETYPE JULY 17, 1963.

AUTHORIZED TECHNICAL SURVEILLANCE SURVEY CONDUCTED  
 JULY 18, 1963 DISCLOSED COVERAGE FEASIBLE ON KINGSBRIDGE 9-2804  
 AT RESIDENCE OF CLARENCE BENJAMIN JONES, 5505 INDEPENDENCE AVENUE,  
 BRONX, NEW YORK: ON LEXINGTON 2-2989, LEXINGTON 2-2990,  
 LEXINGTON 2-2991, AT OFFICE OF GANDHI SOCIETY FOR HUMAN RIGHTS,  
 15 EAST 40TH STREET, NEW YORK CITY: ON BEEKMAN 3-3690, CODED  
 TRUNK G 55, BEEKMAN 3-5660, BEEKMAN 3-5661, BEEKMAN 3-8340, AND  
 BEEKMAN 3-8341, AT OFFICE OF LUBELL, LUBELL AND JONES, 165  
 BROADWAY.

NECESSARY LEASED LINE LETTER TO READ FROM POLE NUMBER 2  
 RIVERDALE AVENUE AT CORNER OF 254TH STREET WEST, BRONX, NEW YORK.  
 SECOND LEASED LINE LETTER SHOULD READ FROM SUB-BASEMENT OF  
 15 EAST 40TH STREET, NEW YORK CITY. NO LEASED LINE LETTER  
 NECESSARY FOR 165 BROADWAY ADDRESS.

BUREAU AUTHORITY REQUESTED TO INSTALL TECHNICAL SURVEILLANCE  
 ON ALL LINES. FULL SECURITY ASSURED.

JONES IS GENERAL COUNSEL FOR GANDHI SOCIETY FOR HUMAN  
 RIGHTS AND ALLEGEDLY IS AT THE OFFICE OF THIS SOCIETY MORE OFTEN  
 THAN HE IS AT HIS LAW OFFICE AT 165 BROADWAY.

INFORMATION NYO FILES REFLECTS THAT THIS SOCIETY WAS FORMED  
 TO SUPPORT MARTIN LUTHER KING. IT WAS TO BE A NON-ACTION AGENCY,  
 THE AIMS OF WHICH WERE TO BE MAINLY OF AN EDUCATIONAL NATURE.

RECEIVED:

12:55 AM

JR

This document is prepared in response to your request and is not for dissemination outside your Committee. Its use is limited to official proceedings by your Committee and the content may not be disclosed to unauthorized personnel without the express approval of the FBI.

If the intelligence contained in the above message is to be disseminated outside the Bureau, it is suggested that it be suitably paraphrased in order to protect the Bureau's cryptographic systems.

# ROUTE IN ENVELOPE

## DECODED COPY

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
 Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
 Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
 Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
 DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
 Evans \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
 Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
 Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

☐ AIRGRAM ☐ CABLEGRAM ☐ RADIO ☒ TELETYPE

URGENT 7-20-63 1:36 AM EST JP  
 TO DIRECTOR  
 FROM SAC ATLANTA

192341

JUNE. COMMUNIST INFLUENCE IN RACIAL MATTERS.

RE BUTEL JULY 17 LAST AND ATLANTA RAD JULY 18 LAST.

SURVEY REFLECTS TECHNICAL SURVEILLANCE INSTALLATION  
 FEASIBLE WITH APPROPRIATE SECURITY ON FOUR TRUNKS, SERVING MARTIN  
 LUTHER KING, JR., SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE,  
 330 AUBURN AVE., ATLANTA. TECHNICAL WILL BE MONITORED IN ATLANTA  
 OFFICE SPACE THROUGH USE OF LEASED LINE. ANTICIPATED THAT FOUR  
 INVESTIGATIVE CLERKS ASSIGNED WILL BE USED FOR MONITORING AND  
 COST OF LEASED LINE UNKNOWN.

TECHNICAL REQUESTED BY ATTORNEY GENERAL TO UNCOVER EVIDENCE  
 OF COMMUNIST PARTICIPATION AND DIRECTION IN RACIAL MATTERS.

IF APPROVED FOR INSTALLATION, THREE DIAL RECORDERS COMPLETE,  
 TWO TAPE RECORDERS AND A PLAYBACK UNIT FOR TRANSCRIBING TAPES WILL  
 BE REQUIRED FOR USE IN ATLANTA.

RECEIVED:

2:49 AM

EFH

#MDR16  
 ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
 DATE 12/18/00 BY SP-2 ALM/ATG

Three Bureaus to Sullivan (encl)  
 "Director, KKK, King, Jr., since"  
 7/22/63 WGS:long  
 7/23/63 WGS:long

Sullivan to Mr. Tolson  
 Mobile, Ala.  
 7/24/63

REC-52

100-3-116-44

AUG 1 1963

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# ROUTE IN ENVELOPE

## Memorandum

J U N E

TO : Mr. W. C. Sullivan

DATE: July 22, 1963

FROM : Mr. F. J. Baumgardner

SUBJECT: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.  
SECURITY MATTER - COMMUNIST

1 - Mr. Belmont  
1 - Mr. Evans  
1 - Mr. Rosen  
1 - Mr. Sullivan  
1 - Mr. Baumgardner  
1 - Mr. Bland  
1 - Mr. Donohue  
1 - Mr. Shaw

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Evans \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

This is a recommendation requesting the Attorney General's authority for the installation of a technical surveillance covering the home telephone of Martin Luther King, Jr., as well as the telephone covering the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, of which King is the President.

You will recall that on 7/16/63 the Attorney General advised Assistant Director Evans that in view of the possible communist influence in the racial situation, he desired that consideration be given to placing a technical surveillance on Martin Luther King, Jr., leader of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, and Clarence Benjamin Jones, a New York City attorney, who is closely associated with King. The Attorney General indicated he was not concerned with the repercussions if it should ever become known that such surveillances had been put into effect and that he thought it advisable to have as complete coverage as possible.

King resides at 563 Johnson Avenue, N.E., Atlanta, Georgia, and is the President of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, 330 Auburn Avenue, Atlanta. King is on the Reserve Index. He is closely associated with Stanley Levison, a concealed member of the Communist Party, USA. ~~King has been described by Levison as a wholehearted Marxist who has studied Marxism, believes in it, agrees with it, but because of his being a minister of religion does not dare to espouse it publicly.~~ Sensitive foreign intelligence operation

Pursuant to the Attorney General's request that consideration be given to placing a technical surveillance on King, our Atlanta Office was requested to conduct a survey to ascertain if such coverage is feasible and could be conducted with full security. Atlanta teletype 7/20/63 discloses that technical coverage on King is feasible and can be conducted with full security.

At present there are 58 investigative-type technical surveillances in operation and 6 being installed. The limit is 75.

A separate memorandum requesting Attorney General's authority to place a technical surveillance on Clarence Benjamin Jones has previously been submitted.

Enc. 7-23-55 REC-24

100-106670

WGS:kmj 2/1963

(9)

This document is prepared in response to your request and is not for dissemination outside your Committee. Its use is limited to official proceedings by your Committee and the content may not be disclosed to unauthorized personnel without the express approval of the FBI.

Memorandum to Mr. Sullivan  
RE: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.  
100-106670

OBSERVATION:

In view of the Attorney General's request that our coverage be as complete as possible, it is felt that we should institute coverage not only on King's residence, but also on his office at the Southern Christian Leadership Conference.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the attached memorandum for the Attorney General go forward requesting authority to install a technical surveillance on King's residence, as well as his office at the Southern Christian Leadership Conference.

JMK 7/25/63  
OK.  
WEL  
A  
Q  
✓

SEE MEMO EVANS TO BELMONT 7/25/63, CAPTIONED  
"MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR" WHICH STATES ATTORNEY  
GENERAL RECONSIDERED AND DISAPPROVED REQUEST  
FOR TESUR.



~~SECRET~~

1-Belmont 1-Baumgardner  
1-Evans 1-Bland  
1-Rosen 1-Donohue  
1-Sullivan 1-Shaw

100-106670

July 23, 1963

J U N E

DECLASSIFIED BY SP-2 ALM/776  
ON 12-18-00

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

RE: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.  
SECURITY MATTER - COMMUNIST

Martin Luther King, Jr., resides at 563 Johnson Avenue, N.E., Atlanta, Georgia, and is the President of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, 330 Auburn Avenue, Atlanta, Georgia. He is closely associated with Stanley Levison, a concealed member of the Communist Party, USA. Levison has described King as being a wholehearted Marxist who has studied Marxism, believes in it, agrees with it, but because of his being a minister of religion does not dare to espouse it publicly. *Sensitive foreign intelligence*

Pursuant to your request that in view of the possible communist influence in the racial situation consideration be given to placing a technical surveillance on King, it is requested that authority be granted to place a technical surveillance on King at his current residence or at any future address to which he may move. It is further requested that authority be granted to place a technical surveillance on the Southern Christian Leadership Conference of which King is President or at any future address to which it may be moved.

Respectfully,  
NATIONAL SECURITY INFORMATION  
Unauthorized Disclosure  
Subject to Criminal Sanctions  
John Edgar Hoover  
Director

SENT RECD J. C.  
TIME 11:00 A.  
DATE 7-23-63  
BY [Signature]

APPROVED

DATE

SEE NOTE PAGE TWO

WGS:kmi  
(11)

~~SECRET~~

GROUP 1  
Excluded from automatic  
downgrading and  
declassification

22 JUL 26 1963

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Evans \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

~~SECRET~~

Memorandum for the Attorney General

NOTE:

. This memorandum classified "Secret" since it refers to a technical surveillance, the unauthorized disclosure of which could be detrimental to the national security.

See memorandum Baumgardner to Sullivan 7/22/63 captioned "Martin Luther King, Jr., Security Matter - Communist," WGS:kmj.

- 2 -

~~SECRET~~



ROUTE

ENVELOPE

7/23/63

CODE

1 - Mr. Bland  
1 - Mr. Donohue  
1 - Mr. Shaw

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO SAC ATLANTA *O.C.P.*  
FROM DIRECTOR FBI (100-3-116)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE *12/18/00* BY *SP2ALN/JK*

JUNE. COMMUNIST INFLUENCE IN RACIAL MATTERS.

REURTEL JULY TWENTY LAST ADVISING TECHNICAL SURVEILLANCE  
ON SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE, THREE THREE ZERO  
AUBURN AVENUE, ATLANTA, FEASIBLE AND CAN BE CONDUCTED WITH FULL  
SECURITY. PROVIDED FULL SECURITY ASSURED IMMEDIATELY MAKE MOST  
DISCREET SURVEY TO DETERMINE IF TECHNICAL SURVEILLANCE ON HOME  
TELEPHONE OF MARTIN LUTHER KING IS FEASIBLE AND CAN BE  
CONDUCTED WITH FULL SECURITY. SUTEL RESULTS.

WGS:KMJ  
(5)

## NOTE:

Attorney General has requested as complete coverage  
as possible on Martin Luther King in view of possible communist  
influence in the racial situation. Atlanta has made survey  
relative to King's organization, Southern Christian Leadership  
Conference, but in order to afford complete coverage it is felt  
that Atlanta should also conduct survey relative to feasibility  
of placing technical surveillance on King's home telephone.

This document is prepared in response to your request and is not for dissemination outside your Committee. Its use is limited to official proceedings by your Committee and the content may not be disclosed to unauthorized personnel without the express approval of the FBI.

VIA TELETYPE

JUL 23 1963

ENCIPHERED

REC-5

JUL 25 1963

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Evans \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_

Tolson	_____
Belmont	_____
Mohr	_____
Casper	_____
Callahan	_____
Conrad	_____
DeLoach	_____
Evans	_____
Gale	_____
Rosen	_____
Sullivan	_____
Tavel	_____
Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Holmes	_____
Gandy	_____

# DECODED COPY

☐ AIRGRAM ☐ CABLEGRAM ☒ RADIO ☐ TELETYPE

URGENT 7-24-63  
TO DIRECTOR  
FROM SAC ATLANTA 242045

#MDR16  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/18/00 BY SP-2 FLY/215

JUNE. COMMUNIST INFLUENCE IN RACIAL MATTERS.  
REBUTEL JULY 23 LAST.

SURVEYS COMPLETED. SERVICE FURNISHED TV RESIDENCE MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., 563 JOHNSON AVENUE, ATLANTA, BY ONE TRUNK USING NON-LISTED NUMBER. PUBLIC UTILITY WILL FURNISH LEASED LINE TO FIELD OFFICE HEADQUARTERS FOR MONITORING. TECHNICAL SURVEILLANCE FEASIBLE WITH FULL SECURITY. NO OTHER TECHNICALS IN EFFECT ON RESIDENCE.

SERVICE FURNISHED TO OFFICE SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE, 330 AUBURN AVENUE, ATLANTA, BY FOUR TRUNK LINES. PUBLIC UTILITY WILL FURNISH LEASED LINES TO FIELD OFFICE HEADQUARTERS. TECHNICAL SURVEILLANCE FEASIBLE WITH FULL SECURITY. NO OTHER TECHNICALS IN EFFECT ON SCLC OFFICE.

INSTALLATIONS RECOMMENDED. ADVISE IF DESIRED AND IF SO FORWARD ATLANTA FOUR DIAL RECORDERS COMPLETE, THREE TAPE RECORDERS AND ONE PLAYBACK UNIT. ✓

RECEIVED:

5:36 PM

FN

*Teletype to Atlanta & Knoxville C/KC W/S.P. T/W*

*Tech Conference  
revised by A.G.  
7/25/63  
W.S.*

*W.S. C. L. L. L.*

REC-33

*100-2-116-48*

EX-117

AUG 2 1963

This document is prepared in response to your request and is not for dissemination outside your Committee. Its use is limited to official proceedings by your Committee and the content may not be disclosed to unauthorized personnel without the express approval of the FBI.

If the intelligence contained in the above message is to be disseminated outside the Bureau, it is suggested that it be suitably paraphrased in order to protect the Bureau's cryptographic systems.



7-24-63

CODE

TELETYPE

URGENT

REC-62

100-3-116-44

TO SACS ATLANTA  
MOBILE  
SAVANNAH  
BIRMINGHAM

FROM DIRECTOR FBI

JUNE

#m9216  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/18/00 BY SP-2 ALN/STG

COMMUNIST INFLUENCE IN RACIAL MATTERS.

REATRAD JULY EIGHTEEN LAST, BULET TO ATLANTA JULY  
NINETEEN LAST AND ATRAD JULY TWENTY LAST.

IF APPROVAL IS GRANTED AND INSTALLATION MADE IN REFERENCED  
CASE, MOBILE WILL FURNISH ONE ADDITIONAL MAGNECORD TAPE  
RECORDER. SAVANNAH WILL FURNISH ONE DIAL RECORDER COMPLETE  
AND BIRMINGHAM WILL FURNISH ONE K THREE TAPE TRANSCRIBER UNIT.

IN EVENT OFFICES CANNOT FURNISH EQUIPMENT, BUREAU SHOULD  
BE NOTIFIED IMMEDIATELY. ALL OFFICES SUBMIT APPROPRIATE FD  
TWO TWO TWO FORMS.

ATLANTA WILL ADVISE OFFICES CONCERNED

WGS:CF (8)

WHEN EQUIPMENT NEEDED.

NOTE: By Bulet 7/19/63 Atlanta was furnished two dial  
recorders and one Magnecord tape recorder.

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Evans \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

This document is prepared in response to your request and is not for dissemination outside your Committee. Its use is limited to official proceedings by your Committee and the content may not be disclosed to unauthorized persons without the express approval of the FBI.

NR. 242205

VIA TELETYPE

JUL 24 1963

6:45 PM  
ENCIPHERED

# ROUTE IN ENVELOPE

July 26, 1963

Airtel

#MDR16  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/18/00 BY SP-2 ALM/7/16

1 - Mr. Millen  
(Room 7112 JB)  
1 - Mr. Eland  
1 - Mr. Donohue  
1 - Mr. Shaw

To: SAC, Atlanta

J U N E

From: Director, FBI (100-3-116)

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.  
SECURITY MATTER - C

Reurtel 7/24/63 "Communist Influence in Racial Matters" advising technical surveillance feasible on residence of Martin Luther King, Jr., as well as Southern Christian Leadership Conference.

The Attorney General has disapproved technical coverage on King and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. Therefore, no further action is to be taken in this matter.

1 - Birmingham  
1 - Mobile

## NOTE:

Memorandum Evans to Belmont 7/25/63 discloses that the Attorney General orally advised on 7/25/63 that he now considers request for technical coverage on King that he made 7/16/63 to be ill advised; that in view of King's constant travel status there was considerable doubt that productivity of technical coverage would be worth the risk. Therefore we are instructing Atlanta to take no further action in this matter.

WGS:kmj  
(9)

REC-62  
JUL 30 1963  
COMM-FBI

22 JUL 30 1963

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Evans \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

AUG 2 1963

MAIL ROOM ☐

TELETYPE UNIT ☐

This document is prepared in response to your request and is not for dissemination outside your Committee. Its use is limited to official proceedings by your Committee and the content may not be disclosed to unauthorized personnel without the express approval of the FBI.



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/18/00 BY SP2 JAC/vjs

Tolson ☒  
Belmont ☒  
Mohr ☒  
Casper ☒  
Callahan ☒  
Conrad ☒  
DeLoach ☒  
Evans ☒  
Gale ☒  
Rosen ☒  
Sullivan ☒  
Tavel ☒  
Trotter ☒  
Tele. Room ☒  
Holmes ☒  
Gandy ☒

TO : Mr. W. C. Sullivan *vjs*

DATE: September 6, 1963

FROM : Mr. J. F. Bland *JFB*

JUNE

SUBJECT: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.  
SECURITY MATTER - C

1 - Mr. Belmont  
1 - Mr. Mohr  
1 - Mr. Sullivan  
1 - Mr. Evans  
1 - Mr. Rosen  
1 - Mr. Bland  
1 - Mr. Donohue  
1 - Mr. Forsyth

Martin Luther King, Jr., the well-known Southern Negro leader who is President of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), is being closely advised by Stanley Levison, a New York attorney and secret member of the Communist Party (CP). He has made the statement that King is a "wholehearted Marxist who has studied it (Marxism), believes in it, agrees with it, but because of his being a minister of religion does not dare to espouse it publicly." Levison has appeared before the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee and refused to answer questions concerning his membership in the CP. Levison continues to act as advisor to King. In June of 1962, he recommended that King hire Hunter Pitts O'Dell as an administrative assistant. King, acting upon this advice, hired O'Dell in this capacity but on November 2, 1962, as a result of a newspaper article identifying O'Dell as a communist, King announced that O'Dell had resigned from this position and his resignation had been accepted. However, as late as August 30, 1963, O'Dell has been observed by Agents of the FBI entering and leaving the SCLC office in New York City. O'Dell, under the pseudonym Cornelius James, was elected to the National Committee of the CP in 1959.

Information developed during August, 1963, indicates that King, who is married, maintains intimate relationships with at least three women, one in Atlanta, one in Mt. Vernon, New York, and one in Washington, D. C.

## OBSERVATIONS:

King's duplicity is amply illustrated in his public announcements concerning O'Dell's lack of connections with the SCLC although, as mentioned above, O'Dell was observed entering and leaving the New York office of the SCLC as late as August 30, 1963. King's extramarital affairs while posing as a minister of the gospel leave him highly susceptible to coercion and possible blackmail and, most important, in view of his continued close association and willingness to accept advice and submit to the influence of such communists as Levison and O'Dell, we should have as complete coverage as possible of King's activities. A large part of the information set out above as well as a great deal of additional information of interest has been developed through technical coverage of close

Enc. 2  
100-106670

TDR/mea

REC-45  
This document is prepared in response to your request and is not for dissemination outside your Committee. Its use is limited to official proceedings by your Committee and the content may not be disclosed to unauthorized persons without the express approval of the FBI.



Memorandum for Mr. Sullivan  
RE: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.  
100-106670

associates of King, such as Stanley Levison and Clarence B. Jones, a former member of the Labor Youth League who is head of the Gandhi Society for Human Rights of which King is honorary chairman, as well as the offices of the above society. It is believed that additional data of extreme interest in this matter could be obtained through technical coverage of King's residence in Atlanta and the Atlanta and New York offices of the SCLC.

RECOMMENDATION:

There is attached a proposed airtel instructing Atlanta to conduct a survey as to the feasibility of installing a technical surveillance on King's residence, as well as the offices of the SCLC. Copies of this airtel are also being forwarded to the New York Office with instructions to conduct a similar survey on the New York office of the SCLC.

*Handwritten signatures and initials:*  
- A large, stylized signature on the left.  
- A signature in the center that appears to read "pk W. E. S."  
- A checkmark and other initials to the right of the central signature.  
- The initials "JD" on the far right.

September 6, 1963

Airtel

1 - Mr. Belmont  
1 - Mr. Mohr  
1 - Mr. Sullivan  
1 - Mr. Evans  
1 - Mr. Rosen  
1 - Mr. Bland  
1 - Mr. Donohue  
1 - Mr. Forsyth

To: SACs, Atlanta (100-5586)  
New York (100-126585)

From: Director, FBI

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.  
SECURITY MATTER - C

JUNE

#mdek  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/18/00 BY SP-2 ALM/1216

Atlanta is directed to conduct a survey for tesur on the headquarters of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) and the residence of Martin Luther King, Jr.

New York is instructed to conduct a similar survey on the New York office of the SCLC.

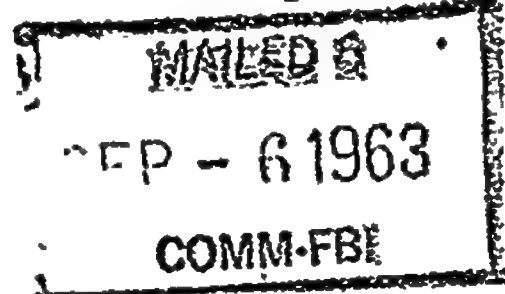
Full security should be assured prior to making this survey.

NOTE:

TDR/mea.

See memo Bland to Sullivan, same date, same caption

This document is prepared in response to your request and is not for dissemination outside your Committee. Its use is limited to official proceedings by your Committee and the content may not be disclosed to unauthorized personnel without the express approval of the FBI.



WTF/mea  
(13)

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Evans \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

SEP 13 1963

MAIL ROOM

TELETYPE UNIT



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : Mr. W. C. Sullivan

FROM : Mr. J. F. Bland

SUBJECT: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.  
SECURITY MATTER - C  
  
COMMUNIST INFLUENCE IN  
RACIAL MATTERS

DATE: October 4, 1963

JUNE

- 1 - Mr. Belmont
- 1 - Mr. Mohr
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. Evans
- 1 - Mr. Rosen
- 1 - Mr. Baumgardner
- 1 - Mr. Bland
- 1 - Mr. Donohue
- 1 - Mr. Forsyth

Tolson ☒  
Belmont ☒  
Mohr ☒  
Casper ☒  
Callahan ☒  
Schrad ☒  
DeLoach ☒  
Evans ☒  
Gale ☒  
Rosen ☒  
Sullivan ☒  
Tavel ☒  
Trotter ☒  
Tele. Room ☒  
Holmes ☒  
Gandy ☒

Surveys have been made on the residence of Martin Luther King, Jr., in Atlanta, Georgia, and the headquarters of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) in New York City. These surveys indicate it is feasible to install technical surveillances on these places with full security.

You will recall that on 7/16/63 the Attorney General advised Assistant Director Evans that in view of the possible communist influence in the racial situation, he desired that consideration be given to placing a technical surveillance on Martin Luther King, Jr., leader of the SCLC, and Clarence B. Jones, a New York City attorney who is closely associated with King and involved in the racial movement. The Attorney General at that time indicated he was not concerned with the repercussions if it should ever become known that such surveillances had been put into effect and that he thought it advisable to have complete coverage. However, when such a request was made of the Attorney General on 7/22/63, he rejected coverage on King.

King resides at 563 Johnson Avenue, N.E., Atlanta, Georgia and is president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, 330 Auburn Avenue, Atlanta. The New York office of the SCLC is located at 312 West 125th Street, New York City.

King is closely associated with Stanley Levison, a concealed member of the Communist Party, USA (CPUSA). King has been described by Levison as a wholehearted Marxist who has studied Marxism, believes in it, agrees with it, but because of his being a minister of religion does not dare to espouse it publicly.

The Attorney General has approved coverage on Stanley Levison, Clarence B. Jones, and the Gandhi Society for Human Rights. These installations have been extremely productive in showing the influence

Enc.  
100-106670  
1 - 100-3-116

WTF/mea

(11)

This document is prepared in response to your request and is not for dissemination outside your Committee. Its use is limited to official proceedings by your Committee and the contents may not be disclosed to unauthorized persons without the express approval of the FBI.



Memorandum for Mr. Sullivan  
RE: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.  
COMMUNIST INFLUENCE IN  
RACIAL MATTERS

100-106670

100-3-116

of Levison on King as well as Levison's behind-the-scenes influence in the racial movement. At present there are 57 investigative-type technical surveillances in operation and three are awaiting installation. The limit is 75.

OBSERVATIONS:

In view of the Attorney General's request that our coverage be as complete as possible and because of the communist influence in the racial movement shown by activities of Stanley Levison as well as King's connection with him, it is believed desirable to put all possible coverage on the racial leaders in order to obtain full information.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the attached be sent to the Attorney General requesting authority to install technical surveillances on King's residence in Atlanta, Georgia, and the SCLC headquarters in New York City.

GK.  
10

*[Handwritten signature]*

WCS

WTF  
JER

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Room 5744 10/7, 1963

TO:

☒ Director  
☐ Mr. Belmont  
☐ Mr. Mohr  
☒ Mr. DeLoach  
☐ Mr. Evans  
☐ Mr. Rosen  
☒ Mr. Callahan  
☐ Mr. Casper  
☐ Mr. Conrad  
☒ Mr. Gale  
☐ Mr. Sullivan  
☐ Mr. Tavel  
☐ Mr. Trotter  
☐ Mr. Clayton  
☐ Miss Gandy  
☐ Miss Holmes  
☐ Personnel Files Section  
☐ Records Branch  
☐ Mrs. Skillman  
☐ Mrs. Brown  
☐ John Quander

☒ Mr. Tolson  
☒ Mr. Belmont  
☒ Mr. Mohr  
☒ Mr. Casper  
☒ Mr. Callahan  
☒ Mr. Conrad  
☒ Mr. DeLoach  
☒ Mr. Evans  
☐ Mr. Gale  
☒ Mr. Rosen  
☒ Mr. Sullivan  
☒ Mr. Tavel  
☐ Mr. Trotter  
☐ Tele. Room  
☐ Miss Holmes  
☐ Miss Gandy

# MDR/6  
 ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
 DATE 12/18/00 BY SP-2 AEM/ETB

See Me For appropriate action  
 Send File Note and Return  
 Please Call Me

I see no point in making this recommendation  
 to the Attorney General in view of the fact  
 that he turned down a similar recommendation

on July 22, 1963. *Handwritten signature*

*Handwritten signature*  
*Handwritten signature*  
 Clyde Tolson

ENCLOSURE

251

5 NOV 7 1963

This document is prepared in response to your request and is not for dissemination outside your Committee. Its use is limited to official proceedings by your Committee and the content may not be disclosed to unauthorized personnel without the express approval of the FBI.

SSC LETTER 8/20/75  
ITEM # 2

# MGR/6  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/18/00 BY SP-2 ALN/STG

4077jelu



SERIAL 253

#m DR/6  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/18/00 BY SP-2 AFM/TG

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

## Memorandum

ROUTE IN ENVELOPE

TO : MR. W. C. SULLIVAN

DATE: 10-22-63

JUNE

FROM : MR. J. A. SIZOO

1-Mr. Sullivan

1-Mr. Conrad

1-Mr. Callahan

SUBJECT: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.  
SECURITY MATTER - C

1-Mr. M. F. Row

1-Mr. Bland

1-Mr. Baumgardner

1-Mr. J. D. Donohue

1-Mr. Forsyth

1-Mr. Phillips

COMMUNIST PARTY, USA

NEGRO QUESTION

COMMUNIST INFLUENCE IN RACIAL MATTERS

INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Memorandum Sizoo to Sullivan 10-18-63 set forth certain requests of SAC McMahon of the Atlanta Office in connection with the monitoring of technical installations under consideration in connection with captioned matter.

On 10-21-63, SAC McMahon was advised that the technical installations on the residence of King and the Headquarters of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) had been approved. He was also advised that his request for the expenditure of \$250 per month for a monitoring plant outside of the Atlanta Office was approved. In connection with Atlanta's request for the services of an outside sound man in connection with these installations, he was advised that the services of Special Agent William F. Heist of the Miami Office should be obtained. (SAC McMahon is to arrange with the Miami Office for the presence of Special Agent Heist when he is needed. Heist's personnel file shows nothing which would prevent such an assignment.) McMahon was also advised that his request for additional technical equipment was being handled by a separate teletype sent to him on 10-21-63. He was advised that if any question arises as to the need of the Atlanta Office for additional equipment, SA Baker of the Electronics Section of the Laboratory is thoroughly familiar with the equipment already ordered and sent to Atlanta.

ACTION:ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 12/18/00 BY SP-2 ALM/STK

None, for information. This memorandum records the following:  
1) Authorization for Atlanta to install technical coverage of King at 563 Johnson Avenue, N.E., Atlanta, Georgia, and on the Headquarters of the SCLC, 330 Auburn Avenue, N.E., Atlanta, Georgia. (SAC McMahon is to furnish the date and time installed and the symbol number of each installation and is to furnish a separate, complete justification and evaluation of the results of the coverage within 30 days of installation.)

100-106670

1 - 100-3-116

JAS:JFB:mjt

(14)

REG-3

NOV 7 1963

This document is prepared in response to your request and is not for dissemination outside your Committee. Its use is limited to official proceedings by your Committee and the content may not be disclosed to unauthorized personnel without the express approval of the FBI.

NOV 8 1963

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Evans \_\_\_\_\_  
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Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN

Memorandum to Mr. W. C. Sullivan  
Re: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.  
SECURITY MATTER - C

COMMUNIST PARTY, USA  
NEGRO QUESTION  
COMMUNIST INFLUENCE IN RACIAL MATTERS  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

2) Authorization for expenditure of \$250 per month for monitoring plant.

3) Authorization to arrange with Miami Office for the services of Special Agent William F. Heist for installation of technical equipment.

*gm*



SERIAL 255

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/18/00 BY SP2 AEM/115

October 14, 1963

Airtel

To: SAC, Atlanta (100-5586A)

J U N E

From: Director, FBI (100-106670) — 255

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.  
SECURITY MATTER - C# mde16  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/18/00 BY SP-2 ALM/7/16

Reurlet dated October 10, 1963.

A review of your letter reveals the possible existence of certain security hazards in connection with the installation of tesur on the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC). You indicate that a switch of pairs in order to provide easier access in a more desirable location is found to be impossible. Prior to further consideration of this matter, the Bureau desires additional information as indicated below:

1) Outline in detail the exact steps necessary to effect a tesur installation on the office of the SCLC. Furnish a concise evaluation as to whether full security can be assured utilizing a sound man from another office.

2) It is noted that in connection with this proposed installation as well as the proposed installation in the case of King's residence you mentioned in your airtel of October 3, 1963, you proposed to locate the monitoring plant in Headquarters facilities. In this connection, advise whether the telephone cable serving the Atlanta Office likewise serves other offices in the building occupied by your office and/or any adjacent buildings.

MAILED 5

OCT 14 1963

COMM-FBI

TDR:scp  
(4)

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
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Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

NOV 13 1963

MAIL ROOM ☐TELETYPE UNIT ☐

This document is prepared in response to your request and is not for dissemination outside your Committee. Its use is limited to official proceedings by your Committee and the content may not be disclosed to unauthorized personnel without the express approval of the FBI.



**Airtel to Atlanta**  
**Re: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.**  
**100-106670**

Together with your reply covering the above points, specify exactly what equipment you will need in the event authority is granted to make the installation on the SCLC office as well as the King residence.

**Advise Bureau by return mail.**

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-106670)

FROM : *[Signature]* SAC, ATLANTA (100-5586A) (P)

SUBJECT: DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.  
SM-C

DATE: 10/10/63

J U N E

# m DE 16  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/18/00 BY SP2 ALM/376

Re Atlanta airtel 10/5/63.

Enclosed herewith is a copy of FD 142 relating to proposed Tesurs on subject and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC).

Through sources, efforts were made to attempt to switch certain pairs in order to facilitate the installation of a Tesur on the four pairs serving the SCLC Office as the cross frame where these pairs appear is located on a pole immediately in front of the SCLC Office. This cross frame is visible through two large windows from within the Office of SCLC and practically on the same level as the windows.

Source at Southern Bell has advised that such a switch of pairs in order to provide easier access in a more desirable location is not possible.

The only sound trained Agent in the Atlanta Office has in the past interviewed Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., and his father, as well as other employees of SCLC. At the time of the interview of Dr. KING, JR., a signed statement was taken and the interview was of approximately two hours duration. In the event installation of instant Tesur is authorized, it is believed that a sound trained Agent should make the installation who is unknown to subject and other employees of SCLC.

It is noted that by previous communication on October 3, 1963, results of survey was forwarded the Bureau regarding Tesur on subject's residence.

2- Bureau (Enc 2) (RM)  
2- Atlanta  
AFM:elt  
(4)

This document is prepared in response to your request and is not for dissemination outside your Committee. Its use is limited to official proceedings by your Committee and the content may not be disclosed to unauthorized personnel without the express approval of the FBI.



AT 100-5586A

AFM/elt

If installations are approved additional equipment for plant operation is required as this office has currently assigned to it two tape recorders, one 6A amplifier and one 6AR dial recorder. There are no playback units available Atlanta for transcription of tapes.

In view of the foregoing, if this installation is approved, Laboratory is requested to send a technician to Atlanta to make installation.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

JUNE

TO : DIRECTOR (Bufile 100-106670) DATE: 10/10/63

FROM : SAC, ATLANTA (100-5586A)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/18/00 BY SP2 ALM/TTG

SUBJECT: RECOMMENDATION FOR INSTALLATION OF TECHNICAL OR MICROPHONE SURVEILLANCE

RE: Title DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Character of Case SM-C

Field Office Atlanta

Symbol Number None

Type of Surveillance (Technical or Microphone)

1. Name and address of subject:

Office of Southern Christian Leadership Conference, 330  
Auburn Avenue, N.E., Atlanta, Georgia.

2. Location of technical operation:

Office space of Atlanta Office.

3. Other technical surveillances on same subject:

None at present in Atlanta.

4. Cost and manpower involved:

Cost of four leased lines plus services of four Investigative  
Clerks. Exact cost of leased lines unknown but based on exact  
wire mileage.

ENCLOSURE

This document is prepared in response to your request and is not for dissemination outside your Committee. Its use is limited to official proceedings by your Committee and the content may not be disclosed to unauthorized personnel without the express approval of the FBI.

11 OCT 11 1963

5. Adequacy of security:

Adequate security is provided if person making installation  
is unknown to subject, Dr. KING and staff of Southern Christian  
Leadership Conference.

Registered Mail

6. Type of case involved:  
Security matter investigation to determine degree of influence CP has on mass Negro organizations through Dr. KING.
7. Connection or status of subject in the case:  
Dr. KING has in the past been in contact with concealed CP members, and former CP members. As President of SCLC, a leading Negro mass Organization, organization and subject are prime logical targets for influencing and infiltration.
8. Specific information being sought:  
Degree of influence being exerted by CP on Dr. KING and Southern Christian Leadership Conference and extent of contacts.
9. Reasons for believing the specific information will be obtained by the technical surveillance:  
Dr. KING's CP contacts are basically located in New York City while he normally maintains office and residence Atlanta. It is however noted Dr. KING is in almost constant travel status
10. Importance of case and subject:  
Dr. KING as President of Southern Christian Leadership Conference has been elevated to the position of "National Leader" of the Negro Civil Rights and Integration Movement as shown by recent events.



11. Possibilities of obtaining desired information by other means  
(Explain in detail):

With the constant travel status of Dr. KING, and his being almost completely surrounded by members of his own race who are loyal to his cause, it is considered that this is the only means by which desired information can be obtained.

12. Risks of detection involved:

Risks of detection are considered at a minimum.

13. Probable length of technical surveillance:  
Indefinite

14. Request made for technical surveillance by any outside agency  
(name specific official, title and agency):

None known to Atlanta Office.

15. Remarks:

In past when interviews have been conducted in the office of Southern Christian Leadership Conference certain employees when asked a question, in a half joking and half serious manner replied, "You should know that already, don't you have our wires tapped?" It is noted in the past, State of Georgia has conducted investigations regarding subject and Southern Christian Leadership Conference.

16. Recommendation of Assistant Director:

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

## Memorandum

JUNE

TO : DIRECTOR (Bufile 100-106670) DATE: 10/10/63

FROM : SAC, ATLANTA (100-5586A)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/18/00 BY SP-2ALM/jtg

SUBJECT: RECOMMENDATION FOR INSTALLATION OF TECHNICAL OR MICROPHONE SURVEILLANCE

RE: Title DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Character of Case SM-C

Field Office ATLANTA

Symbol Number None

Type of Surveillance (Technical ~~or Microphone~~)

## 1. Name and address of subject:

Residence, Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., 563 Johnson Avenue, N.E.,  
Atlanta, Georgia.

## 2. Location of technical operation:

Office space of Atlanta Office.

3. Other technical surveillances on same subject:  
None at present in Atlanta.

## 4. Cost and manpower involved:

Cost of one leased line, plus services of four Investigative  
Clerks. Exact cost of leased lines unknown, but based on  
exact wire mileage.

ENCLOSURE

REC-32

100-106670-255

OCT 11 1963

## 5. Adequacy of security:

Security for installation is adequate

This document is prepared in response to your request and is not for dissemination outside your Committee. Its use is limited to official proceedings by your Committee and the content may not be disclosed to unauthorized personnel without the express approval of the FBI.

Registered Mail

40 OCT 11 1963

PROC.

DO NOT WRITE

SUBMIT

SPEC. MAIL RM.



6. Type of case involved:

Security matter investigation to determine degree of influence CP has on mass Negro organizations through Dr. KING.

7. Connection or status of subject in the case:

Dr. KING has in the past been in contact with concealed CP members, and former CP members. As President of Southern Christian Leadership Conference, a leading Negro mass organization, organization and subject are prime logical targets for influencing and infiltration.

8. Specific information being sought:

Degree of influence being exerted by CP on Dr. KING and Southern Christian Leadership Conference and extent of contacts.

9. Reasons for believing the specific information will be obtained by the technical surveillance:

Dr. KING's CP contacts are basically located in New York Office while he normally maintains office and residence Atlanta. It is however noted Dr. KING is in almost constant travel status.

10. Importance of case and subject:

Dr. KING as president of Southern Christian Leadership Conference has been elevated to the position of "National Leader" of the Negro Civil Rights and Integration Movement as shown by recent events.2 -

11. Possibilities of obtaining desired information by other means  
(Explain in detail):

With the constant travel status of Dr. KING, and his being almost completely surrounded by members of his own race who are loyal to his cause, it is considered that this is the only means by which desired information can be obtained.

12. Risks of detection involved:

Risks of detection are considered at a minimum.

13. Probable length of technical surveillance:

Indefinite.

14. Request made for technical surveillance by any outside agency  
(name specific official, title and agency):

None known to Atlanta Office.

15. Remarks:

In the past when interviews have been conducted in office of Southern Christian Leadership Conference certain employees when asked a questions, in a half joking and half serious manner replied, "You should know that already, don't you have our wires tapped?" It is noted in the past, State of Georgia has conducted investigations regarding subject and Southern Christian Leadership Conference.

16. Recommendation of Assistant Director:



SSC LETTER 8/20/75  
ITEM # 2

# MDR 16  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/18/00 BY SP-2 ALM/716

Retain

SERIAL 253

#ndc16  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/18/00 BY SP2 ALM/ETG

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

## Memorandum

ROUTE IN ENVELOPE

TO : MR. W. C. SULLIVAN

DATE: 10-22-63

JUNE

FROM : MR. J. A. SIZOO

SUBJECT: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.  
SECURITY MATTER - CCOMMUNIST PARTY, USA  
NEGRO QUESTION  
COMMUNIST INFLUENCE IN RACIAL MATTERS  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

1-Mr. Sullivan

1-Mr. Conrad

1-Mr. Callahan

1-Mr. M. F. Row

1-Mr. Bland

1-Mr. Baumgardner

1-Mr. J. D. Donohue

1-Mr. Forsyth

1-Mr. Phillips

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Evans \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Memorandum Sizoo to Sullivan 10-18-63 set forth certain requests of SAC McMahon of the Atlanta Office in connection with the monitoring of technical installations under consideration in connection with captioned matter.

On 10-21-63, SAC McMahon was advised that the technical installations on the residence of King and the Headquarters of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) had been approved. He was also advised that his request for the expenditure of \$250 per month for a monitoring plant outside of the Atlanta Office was approved. In connection with Atlanta's request for the services of an outside sound man in connection with these installations, he was advised that the services of Special Agent William F. Heist of the Miami Office should be obtained. (SAC McMahon is to arrange with the Miami Office for the presence of Special Agent Heist when he is needed. Heist's personnel file shows nothing which would prevent such an assignment.) McMahon was also advised that his request for additional technical equipment was being handled by a separate teletype sent to him on 10-21-63. He was advised that if any question arises as to the need of the Atlanta Office for additional equipment, SA Baker of the Electronics Section of the Laboratory is thoroughly familiar with the equipment already ordered and sent to Atlanta.

ACTION:

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/18/00 BY SP2 ALM/JTC

None, for information. This memorandum records the following:  
1) Authorization for Atlanta to install technical coverage of King at 563 Johnson Avenue, N.E., Atlanta, Georgia, and on the Headquarters of the SCLC, 330 Auburn Avenue, N.E., Atlanta, Georgia. (SAC McMahon is to furnish the date and time installed and the symbol number of each installation and is to furnish a separate, complete justification and evaluation of the results of the coverage within 30 days of installation.)

100-106670

1 - 100-3-116

JAS:JFB:mjt

(14)

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NOV 8

NOV 7 1963

UNRECORDED COPY FILED



Memorandum to Mr. W. C. Sullivan  
Re: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.  
SECURITY MATTER - C

COMMUNIST PARTY, USA  
NEGRO QUESTION  
COMMUNIST INFLUENCE IN RACIAL MATTERS  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

2) Authorization for expenditure of \$250 per month for monitoring plant.

3) Authorization to arrange with Miami Office for the services of Special Agent William F. Heist for installation of technical equipment.

*gms*

SERIAL 255

# M DRIG  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/18/00 BY SP-7 AEM/NG

October 14, 1963

Airtel

To: SAC, Atlanta (100-5586A)  
 From: Director, FBI (100-106670) — 255

J U N E

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.  
 SECURITY MATTER - C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
 DATE 12/18/00 BY SP2 ALK/276

Reurlet dated October 10, 1963.

A review of your letter reveals the possible existence of certain security hazards in connection with the installation of tesur on the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC). You indicate that a switch of pairs in order to provide easier access in a more desirable location is found to be impossible. Prior to further consideration of this matter, the Bureau desires additional information as indicated below:

1) Outline in detail the exact steps necessary to effect a tesur installation on the office of the SCLC. Furnish a concise evaluation as to whether full security can be assured utilizing a sound man from another office.

2) It is noted that in connection with this proposed installation as well as the proposed installation in the case of King's residence you mentioned in your airtel of October 3, 1963, you proposed to locate the monitoring plant in Headquarters facilities. In this connection, advise whether the telephone cable serving the Atlanta Office likewise serves other offices in the building occupied by your office and/or any adjacent buildings.

MAILED 5

OCT 14 1963

COMM-FBI

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
 Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
 Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
 Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
 DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
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 Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
 Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
 Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

TDR:scp  
 (4)

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NOV 13 1963

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐



**Airtel to Atlanta**  
**Re: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.**  
**100-106670**

**Together with your reply covering the above points, specify exactly what equipment you will need in the event authority is granted to make the installation on the SCLC office as well as the King residence.**

**Advise Bureau by return mail.**

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-106670)

FROM : *[Signature]* SAC, ATLANTA (100-5586A) (P)

SUBJECT: DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.  
SM-C

DATE: 10/10/63

J U N E

#MDR/6  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/18/00 BY SP-2 A/M/TTC

Re Atlanta airtel 10/5/63.

Enclosed herewith is a copy of FD 142 relating to proposed Tesurs on subject and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC).

Through sources, efforts were made to attempt to switch certain pairs in order to facilitate the installation of a Tesur on the four pairs serving the SCLC Office as the cross frame where these pairs appear is located on a pole immediately in front of the SCLC Office. This cross frame is visible through two large windows from within the Office of SCLC and practically on the same level as the windows.

Source at Southern Bell has advised that such a switch of pairs in order to provide easier access in a more desirable location is not possible.

The only sound trained Agent in the Atlanta Office has in the past interviewed Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., and his father, as well as other employees of SCLC. At the time of the interview of Dr. KING, JR., a signed statement was taken and the interview was of approximately two hours duration. In the event installation of instant Tesur is authorized, it is believed that a sound trained Agent should make the installation who is unknown to subject and other employees of SCLC.

It is noted that by previous communication on October 3, 1963, results of survey was forwarded the Bureau regarding Tesur on subject's residence.

2- Bureau (Enc 3) (RM)  
2- Atlanta (Enc 3) 20 BH-43  
AFM:elt  
(4)

This document is prepared in response to your request and is not for dissemination outside your Committee. Its use is limited to official proceedings of your Committee and the content may not be disclosed to unauthorized personnel without the express approval of the FBI.

AT 100-5586A  
AFM/elt

If installations are approved additional equipment for plant operation is required as this office has currently assigned to it two tape recorders, one 6A amplifier and one 6AR dial recorder. There are no playback units available Atlanta for transcription of tapes.

In view of the foregoing, if this installation is approved, Laboratory is requested to send a technician to Atlanta to make installation.



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

JUNE

TO : DIRECTOR (Bufile 100-106670) DATE: 10/10/63

FROM : SAC, ATLANTA (100-5586A)

SUBJECT: RECOMMENDATION FOR INSTALLATION OF TECHNICAL OR MICROPHONE SURVEILLANCE

RE: Title DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Character of Case SM-C

Field Office Atlanta

Symbol Number None

Type of Surveillance (Technical or Microphone) XXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

1. Name and address of subject:

Office of Southern Christian Leadership Conference, 330  
Auburn Avenue, N.E., Atlanta, Georgia.

2. Location of technical operation:

Office space of Atlanta Office.

3. Other technical surveillances on same subject:

None at present in Atlanta.

4. Cost and manpower involved:

Cost of four leased lines plus services of four Investigative Clerks. Exact cost of leased lines unknown but based on exact wire mileage.

ENCLOSURE

REC-32

This document is prepared in response to your request and is not for dissemination outside your Committee. Its use is limited to official proceedings by your Committee and the content may not be disclosed to unauthorized personnel without the express approval of the FBI.

5. Adequacy of security:

Adequate security is provided if person making installation is unknown to subject, Dr. KING and staff of Southern Christian Leadership Conference.

Registered Mail

6. Type of case involved:  
Security matter investigation to determine degree of influence CP has on mass Negro organizations through Dr. KING.
7. Connection or status of subject in the case:  
Dr. KING has in the past been in contact with concealed CP members, and former CP members. As President of SCLC, a leading Negro mass Organization, organization and subject are prime logical targets for influencing and infiltration.
8. Specific information being sought:  
Degree of influence being exerted by CP on Dr. KING and Southern Christian Leadership Conference and extent of contacts.
9. Reasons for believing the specific information will be obtained by the technical surveillance:  
Dr. KING's CP contacts are basically located in New York City while he normally maintains office and residence Atlanta. It is however noted Dr. KING is in almost constant travel status
10. Importance of case and subject:  
Dr. KING as President of Southern Christian Leadership Conference has been elevated to the position of "National Leader" of the Negro Civil Rights and Integration Movement as shown by recent events.

11. Possibilities of obtaining desired information by other means  
(Explain in detail):

With the constant travel status of Dr. KING, and his being almost completely surrounded by members of his own race who are loyal to his cause, it is considered that this is the only means by which desired information can be obtained.

12. Risks of detection involved:

Risks of detection are considered at a minimum.

13. Probable length of technical surveillance:  
Indefinite

14. Request made for technical surveillance by any outside agency  
(name specific official, title and agency):

None known to Atlanta Office.



15. Remarks:

In past when interviews have been conducted in the office of Southern Christian Leadership Conference certain employees when asked a question, in a half joking and half serious manner replied, "You should know that already, don't you have our wires tapped?" It is noted in the past, State of Georgia has conducted investigations regarding subject and Southern Christian Leadership Conference.

16. Recommendation of Assistant Director:

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

## Memorandum

JUNE

TO : DIRECTOR (Bufile 100-106670) DATE: 10/10/63

FROM : SAC, ATLANTA (100-5586A)

SUBJECT: RECOMMENDATION FOR INSTALLATION OF TECHNICAL OR MICROPHONE SURVEILLANCE

RE: Title DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Character of Case SM-C

Field Office ATLANTA

Symbol Number None

Type of Surveillance (Technical ~~or Microphone~~)

## 1. Name and address of subject:

Residence, Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., 563 Johnson Avenue, N.E.,  
Atlanta, Georgia.

## 2. Location of technical operation:

Office space of Atlanta Office.

3. Other technical surveillances on same subject:  
None at present in Atlanta.

## 4. Cost and manpower involved:

Cost of one leased line, plus services of four Investigative  
Clerks. Exact cost of leased lines unknown, but based on  
exact wire mileage.

## 5. Adequacy of security:

Security for installation is adequate

This document is prepared in response to your request and is not for dissemination outside your Committee. Its use is limited to official proceedings by your Committee and the content may not be disclosed to unauthorized personnel without the express approval of the FBI.

Registered Mail

#mde16  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/18/00 BY SP-2 ALM/1076

REC-32

ENCLOSURE

11 OCT 11 1963

40 OCT 11 1963

EXP. PROC.

6. Type of case involved:

Security matter investigation to determine degree of influence CP has on mass Negro organizations through Dr. KING.

7. Connection or status of subject in the case:

Dr. KING has in the past been in contact with concealed CP members, and former CP members. As President of Southern Christian Leadership Conference, a leading Negro mass organization, organization and subject are prime logical targets for influencing and infiltration.

8. Specific information being sought:

Degree of influence being exerted by CP on Dr. KING and Southern Christian Leadership Conference and extent of contacts.

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Dr. KING's CP contacts are basically located in New York Office while he normally maintains office and residence Atlanta. It is however noted Dr. KING is in almost constant travel status.

10. Importance of case and subject:

Dr. KING as president of Southern Christian Leadership Conference has been elevated to the position of "National Leader" of the Negro Civil Rights and Integration Movement as shown by recent events.2 -



11. Possibilities of obtaining desired information by other means  
(Explain in detail):

With the constant travel status of Dr. KING, and his being almost completely surrounded by members of his own race who are loyal to his cause, it is considered that this is the only means by which desired information can be obtained.

12. Risks of detection involved:

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13. Probable length of technical surveillance:

Indefinite.

14. Request made for technical surveillance by any outside agency  
(name specific official, title and agency):

None known to Atlanta Office.

15. Remarks:

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16. Recommendation of Assistant Director: